

**In the Claims:**

Add claims 21-23 as follows:

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21. (New) The developing device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the toner contains binder resin, and vacuum drying is performed for preparing the binder resin.

a! 22. (New) The developing device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the toner has a volume average particle size of 5 to 14  $\mu\text{m}$ , in which the toner particles 3  $\mu\text{m}$  or less in size are present in concentrations of not more than 20% in terms of percentage of particle count.

23. (New) A developing device comprising:  
a developer carrying member having a rubber hardness of 20 to 70 degrees, an elongation of 400 to 1200 % and a volume electrical resistance of  $1 \times 10^4$  to  $1 \times 10^9 \Omega\text{cm}$  at its surface; and  
a storage portion for storing a toner to be supplied to the developer carrying member, the toner containing an organic aromatic solvent and a vinyl monomer in combined concentrations of not more than 500 ppm.

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